



Orphans and Vulnerable Children Targeted Evaluation (TE)

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Background

- Little empirical evidence as to “what works” in terms of programming for orphans and vulnerable children
- Existing research on intervention effectiveness is mostly ongoing; few studies have been completed

Goal and Expected Results

- Overall goal of the TE is to answer the question, “what interventions are most effective in terms of models, components, costs, and outcomes in improving the well-being of orphans and vulnerable children in resource poor settings?”
- Information will be used by policy-makers and program planners to improve programming for orphans and vulnerable children.

TE Components

- There are four components to this TE:
 1. Case studies of program models
 2. Outcome evaluations of selected intervention and comparison groups where possible
 3. Costing of specific interventions
 4. Data dissemination, information and use

Case studies

- The purpose the case study is to thoroughly document each program model. A project team member will visit the program and gather the following information through observation, in-depth interviews and focus group discussions:
 - Program model
 - Community Engagement
 - Method of beneficiary selection
 - Other programs working in the geographic area

Program Model

- Program purpose: problems/issues address by the program; rationale for programmatic approach; and conceptual framework with goals, objectives and intended outcomes
- Service delivery: description of services provided; programmatic approach (support to families, community, etc.)
- Staffing: organizational chart; information on staff credentials, selection and training
- Lessons learned regarding the program model

Community Engagement Process and Partners

- Process of identifying partners, forming collaborations with partners, capacity building, incorporating local input into program design, and lessons learned in community engagement.
- An overview of partners and how they work together as well as support received (local community groups, volunteers, committees, referral partners, government) and lessons learned with community partnerships

Beneficiaries

- Description: target population including primary and secondary beneficiaries and their demographics
- Selection: method of identification/selection; frequency for taking on new beneficiaries and factors driving this process
- Service delivery: need assessment; service variation; monitoring and graduation of beneficiaries
- Lessons learned with beneficiary processes

Outcome Evaluation

- The purpose of this activity is to provide information regarding what interventions are most effective for different types of children and adolescents under 18 in various settings, so that policy makers and program implementers can make informed choices about resource allocation
 - Study design will be tailored to partners
 - Comparison groups included where feasible

Outcome measures

- The TE will examine outcome measures for the following domains
 - Education
 - SES
 - Health and Nutrition
 - Lifestyle behaviors
 - Psychosocial
 - Legal knowledge

Costing Study

- The purpose of this activity is to collect costs involved in implementing specific interventions (e.g., kids clubs) to determine costs of replication.
- Cost data will be collected as part of the case studies for selected interventions.

Next steps and timeline

- Conduct case studies and collect cost data, November 2006-August 2007
- Outcome evaluation, June 2007- June 2008

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